

CRIMINAL JUSTICE PARTNERSHIP
ADVISORY BOARD MEETING
August 19, 2009

Board Members Present: Chairperson Ann McKown, Vice Chair Kenneth Titus; Ellen Reckhow, Durham County Commissioner; Carolyn Titus, Deputy County Manager; Lao Rubert, Member At Large; Nina Bullock, Member At Large;

Board Members Absent: Secretary Gayle Harris, Public Health; Ellen Holliman, Mental Health; Fredericka Carver, Member At Large; Gary Thompson, Community Based Corrections Program; David Saacks, District Attorney; Mike Andrews, Office of the Sheriff; John Lee, Community Corrections; Marcia Owen, Victim Services; Antoinette Hilliard, Public Defender's Office; Deborah Schwartz, Member At Large; DeWarren Langley, Member At Large; John Fitzpatrick, Criminal Defense Attorney; BJ Council, Police Department

Staff: Gudrun Parmer, Jo Iverson, Jonie Coss, Kelli Wenzel, and Alison Dawe

Guests: Conrad Strader, Community Corrections Division II; Robert Robinson, Durham Center; Joseph Liberatos, Community Corrections

Introductions: Chairperson Ann McKown welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order. Members and guests introduced themselves.

Minutes: May 20, 2009 minutes were presented for approval. Minutes approved without corrections.

FY 2008-09: Fiscal Report – Jonie Coss presented a fiscal report for FY 08/09. The overall budget was a little over 2.5 million, with 83.51% expended. Gudrun pointed out the mandatory cut of 6 percent the County required each department to make; also, each department had been instructed to scale back their spending. The total for unspent/County reduction was \$423,539.80. Jonie reported that 99.94% were expended out of the CJPP grant of \$182,188.00.

Annual Report – Jo Iverson and Alison Dawe presented the CJRC Annual Report to the board. Jo presented an introduction to the report along with CJRC mission and program overview. She reported that Community Based Corrections was CJRC's largest division, serving a total 489 clients in FY 2009. There were 342 new admissions, the largest number in 5 years. She added the program completion rate dropped to an average of 33%. She mentioned the decrease was largely due to stricter and more rapid termination for technical probation violations, particularly among intermediate sanctioned clients in the Day Reporting Center. She also mentioned the completion rates may have also been affected by high caseloads caused by vacant positions due to the hiring freeze. Jo provided a brief synopsis of each program and the services that were provided. Alison reported the outcome for the GED program and Jo completed her presentation by reporting on Special Programs, which included CAGI, Project Restore, and Court Services.

FY 2009-10: Gudrun provided a brief update on fiscal year 09/10, beginning with the Budget / Funding Update. She informed the board that there were no cuts at the state level for CJPP

Funding and individual grant amounts would be re-calculated based on the formula. She stated, unexpectedly, that CJRC would receive funds for Substance Abuse Treatment and other services for Drug Treatment Court. Gudrun advised the board that CJRC experienced a net reduction (without JCPC) of 11.68% in County funding, this included a reduction of 1.7 FTEs, one full-time and two part-time, but no filled positions. Additionally, CJRC currently had four vacancies; with one Substance Abuse Counselor position currently posted.

Gudrun updated the board on the New CJPP Legislation; she stated that as part of the budget, there were some changes made to open CJPP programs to community-sanctioned offenders. However, Conrad Strader pointed out that this would have no impact on DRC, which is still a sanction that requires a court order for admission.

Program Updates: Gudrun presented program updates to the board, beginning with Employment Services: The Employment Specialist position remains frozen. Nevertheless, staff recommends staying with the 3-step approach, with more referrals going to outside resources, especially DTCC. CJRC is no longer using Employment Services as a means to monitor DRC offenders.

Gudrun reported on DRC and stated that CJRC staff met last week with DCC to discuss numbers and possible modifications. The board discussed ways to reward positive behaviors, like reducing curfews, modifying completions to unsupervised probation, etc. Technical violations accounted for 57% of DRC (excluding Reentry) terminations.

Gudrun announced that CJRC transferred a case manager from Youth Services to the STARR program to provide employability skills classes and transition support to STARR graduates.

Gudrun also announced the transfer of the administration of the Juvenile Crime Prevention Council to CJRC effective July 2009.

Approval of 2009 Community Corrections Plan Update: Gudrun presented the final draft of the Durham County Community Based Corrections Plan Update for the board's approval. She requested the board to review the document one last time for any changes. Ellen Reckhow made several suggestions to some of the wording, and requested a section at the end to address recommended priorities. Gudrun suggested the board evaluate the update and email her with any suggestions. Gudrun mentioned that the CJPAB Chair traditionally presents this document to the Board of County Commissioners. Judge McKown recommended that the board approve the document, allowing a small subcommittee to make the changes as recommended by Commissioner Reckhow, so that it can be ready to present to the County Commissioners in October or November. The 2009 Community Based Corrections Plan Update was approved unanimously, with the changes to be completed by a subcommittee.

Mental Health Services at the Durham County Detention Facility: Gudrun introduced Kelli Wenzel from Court Services. Kelli presented an overview of the services provided in the Durham County Detention Facility for inmates with mental health problems. Services include a mandatory mental health screening for all arrestees booked into the jail, completion of inmate sick call requests and providing continuity of care for inmates while in custody, including discharge planning.

Kelli stated that a psychiatrist is available 6 hours a week to conduct psychiatric evaluations for medication management and crisis intervention. The mental health staff works very closely with the legal staff and other court agencies and acts as a liaison for the inmate. She also stated that when a mental health client is admitted into the detention facility, the outpatient provider is notified. Mental health staff members work quickly to ensure that clients are re-started on their medications for their stability. Upon the inmates' release from the jail, they receive an outpatient appointment

with their providers and if no provider is assigned, mental health staff will link them to a provider based on their level of need. The inmates will also receive a 30-day prescription of their medication until they can reconnect with their outpatient provider.

News and Announcements:

Next CJPP Advisory Board Meeting scheduled for Wednesday, November 18, 2009, 1:00 PM.

Meeting adjourned at 2:30 PM.